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Remarks/Arguments

Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment

The examiner issued a notice of Non-Compliant Amendment indicating that claims 69-72 and 74-84 did not have the proper status identifier. The examiner noted that Applicant converted claims 69-72 and 74-84 to "withdrawn" claim status, and that these claims are pending claims. The status identifier for claims 69-72 and 74-84 has been changed to either "currently amended," or "previously presented," as appropriate.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and consideration of the amended claims in light of the following arguments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The examiner rejected claims 66, 67, 69-72, and 74-84 as indefinite.

Claims 66 and 67, 69-72, and 74-84 have been amended in a manner which is believed to overcome the rejection. Claims 69-72 and 74-84 have been amended to depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable claim 98. Claims 83 and 84 also have been amended to clarify that it is the gaseous precursor that comprises the specified material (silane, trimethyl silane).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The examiner rejected claims 1, 6, 11, 23, 28, 45, and 68 as obvious over U.S. Patent Application 2003/0157345 to Beldi. The examiner also rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 11, 23, 24, 28, 29, 33, 45, 46, 50, 68, 97, and 101 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,300,244 to Bokros.

Claims 2-3, 24-25, 29-30, 33-34, 41-42, 46-47, 50, 55, 58-59, 68, 97, and 101 have been canceled.

The examiner indicated that claims 3, 30, 37, 47, 51, 54, 98, and 105 would be allowable if amended to independent form. The referenced claims have been amended to independent form. In this regard, please note that claims 1, 28, and 45 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 3, 30, and 47, respectively.


The remaining claims now depend from allowable base claims. Applicant respectfully requests allowance the pending claims. Upon allowance of generic claim(s), Applicant respectfully requests reentry, consideration, and allowance of withdrawn claims which depend from or otherwise require all of the limitations of the allowable generic claim(s).

CONCLUSION

Upon allowance of a generic base claim, applicant respectfully requests rejoinder and consideration of the withdrawn claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise

require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this request, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0997 (SwRI-2890-04), maintained Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C.

~~Respectfully submitted,~~


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